

## Message Text

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PAGE 01   SOFIA 00486 161613Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NAS-01 OES-07 CU-04 /025 W  
-----008530 162143Z /65

R 161332Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4270

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SOFIA 0486

E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: TPHY TGEN, OTRA, OSCI, BU  
SUBJECT: NAS EXCHANGE ALBERT GILMAN

REF: STATE 40997

1. NAS CORRECT IN ASSUMING EMBASSY IS INFORMED ABOUT GILMAN HOUSING SITUATION. P AND C OFFICER IS IN CONTINUAL CONTACT WITH GILMAN AND HAS DISCUSSED PROBLEM WITH ALEXANDER POPOV, DIRECTOR, INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS DEPARTMENT, BAN, WHO IS NAS'S CONTACT. POPOV REQUESTED EMBASSY'S HELP IN POSSIBLY ACCOMMODATING GILMAN FAMILY IN "UNOCCUPIED" EMBASSY APARTMENT. IN ADDITION TO OTHER REASONS, QUESTION OF EMBASSY HOUSING IS ACADEMIC IN VIEW OF INSUFFICIENT APARTMENTS FOR ITS OWN STAFF NOW AND IN FORESEEABLE FUTURE.

2. PER PARA 2, REFTTEL, GILMAN UNWILLING TO SPLIT FAMILY. HE IS IN NO POSITION TO TERMINATE HIS VISIT, NOT ONLY BECAUSE NAS FINANCIAL SUPPORT WOULD TERMINATE (PARA 2) BUT HE VACATED HIS UNIVERSITY POSITION UNTIL JANUARY, 1979. REGARDING OPTION 3 (PARA. 3) THESSALONIKI SCHOOL ACCEPTS BOARDING STUDENTS BEGINNING GRADE 9 WHICH ELIMINATES ALL GILMAN CHILDREN. GILMANS ALSO CONCERNED THAT SO FAR CHILDREN HAVE NOT BEEN ALLOWED TO ATTEND SCHOOL.

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3. GILMAN FAMILY MOVED OUT OF BAN HOTEL ONLY DURING WEEK OF FEBRUARY 27 DUE TO NEED OF FACILITY FOR FOREIGN SCHOLARS VISITING SOFIA FOR 100 ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION. DURING THAT WEEK FAMILY RESIDED AT PARK HOTEL MOSKVA BUT MOVED BACK TO BAN HOTEL WHERE IT NOW RESIDES.

4. GILMAN APPEARS AGREEABLE, COOPERATIVE, REASON-  
ABLE AND WILLING TO CONSIDER EVEN LESS THAN "ADEQUATE"  
ACCOMMODATIONS. POPOV SAID BAN UNABLE TO LOCATE  
"ADEQUATE" HOUSING BUT FACT IS THAT GILMAN HAS NOT  
BEEN SHOWN HOUSING, EVEN INADEQUATE APARTMENT. DUR-  
ING ENTIRE TIME IN SOFIA GILMAN WAS INVITED TO LOOK  
AT ONLY ONE APARTMENT, WHICH APPEARED ADEQUATE TO HIM,  
BUT IT WAS WITHDRAWN FROM CONSIDERATION AS OWNER  
CHANGED HER MIND ABOUT AVAILABILITY. THUS, IN EFFECT,  
GILMAN HAS BEEN OFFERED NO RPT NO HOUSING.

5. EMBASSY REALIZES GILMAN WAS FOREWARNED OF  
DIFFICULTIES HE MIGHT ENCOUNTER IN HOUSING, THAT THERE  
IS A HOUSING SHORTAGE IN SOFIA, AND THAT BAN DOES NOT  
ITSELF OWN APARTMENTS BUT OBTAINS THEM THROUGH BALKAN  
TOURIST. HOWEVER, WE FEEL NAS POSITION (PARA 4) IS  
UNFAIR THAT GILMAN MUST DECIDE WHAT ACTIONS ARE IN  
HIS BEST INTERESTS. IT APPEARS TO US THAT BAN, BY  
NOT OFFERING HOUSING ADEQUATE FOR EVEN AVERAGE-SIZE  
FAMILY, IS NOT FULFILLING IT'S OBLIGATIONS.

5. EMBASSY SUGGESTS NAS REQUEST BAN TO PLACE  
GILMAN CHILDREN IN BULGARIAN SCHOOL AND TO FIND HOUSING  
FOR FAMILY. HOPEFULLY BAN WILL FIND ADEQUATE HOUSING  
BUT GILMAN, AS OTHER EXCHANGEES, SHOULD AT LEAST BE  
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OFFERED SOME HOUSING.  
GARTHOFF

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HOUSING, EDUCATION, CHILDREN, SCHOOLS, SCIENTIFIC VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** ONLY  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Reference:** 78 STATE 40997  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NAS EXCHANGE ALBERT GILMAN  
**TAGS:** TPHY, TGEN, OTRA, OSCI, BU, (GILMAN, ALBERT)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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